

Nantwich Rural District.



Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1946,

by

O. H. BLACKLAY, M.D., F.R.C.S.
EDIN.

Medical Officer of Health.

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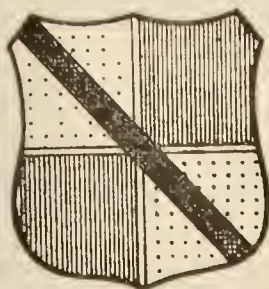
To which is appended the Report of

JOHN S. TOWNLEY,

Sanitary Inspector and

Cleansing Superintendent.

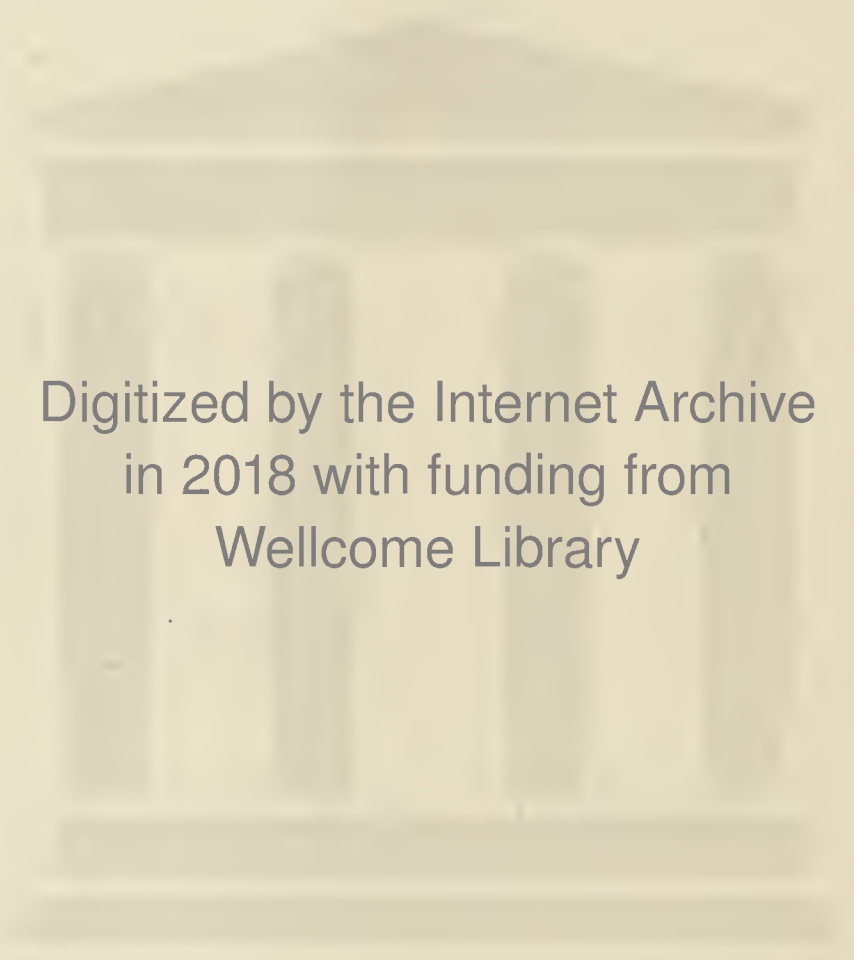
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Nantwich Rural District.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	100,823
Population	...	...	...	...	...	25,370
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1946)						
according to the rate books	...	...	...	...	...	7,660
Rateable Value (1st April, 1946)	...	...	...	...	...	£133,220
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£544 15 8

SANITARY STAFF

Medical Officer: O. H. Blacklay, M.D., F.R.C.S., (Edin.) (Part time).

Chief Sanitary Inspector (full time): John S. Townley.

First Additional Sanitary Inspector (full time): John Craven.

Second Additional Sanitary Inspector (full time): T. H. Powell.

Sanitary Engineer and Surveyor (full time): H. Crabtree.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The social conditions remain unaltered. The residents of the district surrounding Crewe and Nantwich are employed in these towns and in the remaining part the population find employment in agriculture, which is the chief industry of the District. Industries allied with agriculture, in the form of milk and milk products factories are situated in the area. There is one clothing factory which employs female labour. There is no unemployment in the area.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	432	206	226
Illegitimate	32	18	14

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 18.289.

Still Births	15	6	9
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births	31.3.		
Deaths	303	160	143
Death Rate per 1,000 of the resident population,	11.94.		
Deaths from Puerperal causes ...			1

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

All Infants per 1,000 live births			21.5
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			18.5
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			62.5
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	48	28	20
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	—	—	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	—	—	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	1	—	1

Particulars of any unusual or excessive Mortality during the year which has received or requires comment—None.

Deaths: The total number of deaths of infants under one year of age (males and females) was 10.

There have been no cases of sickness or invalidity which have been specially noteworthy in this area during the year. The conditions of occupation and environments of the population are healthy.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

Steady progress has been made under this heading and the position at the 31st December, 1946, was particularly satisfactory with respect to children attending schools in the area.

The annual returns from the Head Teachers concerned show that 90 per cent. of the children attending these schools had been immunised. Arrangements have been put in hand for the treatment of the remaining 10 per cent. by direct communication with the parents of the children concerned.

As far as can be ascertained the position with respect to children under school age remained about the same, 50 per cent. being estimated as having been immunised against diphtheria.

There were five cases of diphtheria notified of which three had not been immunised, one of these resulting in a fatal case.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

There have been no changes or developments owing to the war, and the existing arrangements are as follows:

Bacteriological specimens are examined at the Public Health Laboratory of the University of Manchester, the Evans Biological Institute, and Chester Royal Infirmary Laboratory.

Water samples are submitted to Messrs. Melling and Ardern, the County Analysts, Manchester.

Samples of milk are examined at the Chester Royal Infirmary Laboratory, and the Cheshire County Council Laboratory.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES AND NURSING ARRANGEMENTS

In my opinion the ambulance service is adequate, the following three vehicles being available:—

1. Infectious Diseases—maintained by the Nantwich Joint Hospital Board.
2. Non-Infectious and Accident cases—maintained by Nantwich Urban and Rural District Councils jointly under agreement.
3. Non-Infectious and Accident cases—maintained by the British Red Cross (Haslington).

There are district nursing associations at Acton, Audlem, Bickerton, Bunbury, Cholmondeley, Combermere, Doddington, Haslington, Shavington, Stapeley, Willaston, and Worleston, within the rural district, which along with those at Malpas, Sandbach and Nantwich, cover the whole of the Nantwich Rural Area with the exception of the parishes of Barthomley and Weston for which it is hoped arrangements will soon be made.

Nurses employed by the County Council are located in the Rural District, and they exercise the duties of School Nurses and Health Visitors to cases of tuberculosis.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

There are two Infant Welfare Centres in the district which are situated at Audlem and Haslington. The Infant Welfare Centres at Nantwich and Alsager are used by residents of this district living in the vicinity of these places.

A treatment centre for Venereal Disease is situated at 8, Herdman Street, Crewe, where cases from the Rural Area can receive treatment.

HOSPITALS

There is a large Poor Law Hospital at Nantwich which serves the Rural and Urban Districts of Nantwich and the Borough of Crewe to which a temporary extension has been made providing accommodation for 210 beds for use in the event of emergency.

There is an Isolation Hospital at Worleston which serves the Rural and Urban Districts of Nantwich. It is capable of accommodating 20 adults and 30 children, and of treating three diseases at the same time.

There is a Smallpox Hospital situated in the area at Ravensmoor, which provides for the Nantwich Rural and Urban Districts.

There is a Cottage Hospital at Nantwich with accommodation for 18 patients.

The Nantwich Rural District Council has been very concerned at the inadequacy of accommodation for maternity cases in the area, and representations on this subject have been made to the Cheshire County Council, with the result that premises have now been obtained by that authority and the necessary works of alteration and adaptation are in progress with the prospect of an early opening.

There is an Agricultural and Industrial Colony for residential treatment of Tuberculosis cases capable of some work, situated in the district. This Institution is situated at Wrenbury Hall and was presented to the Cheshire County Council by the British Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Association.

WATER SUPPLIES

The whole of the District, with the exception of the Wirswall Parish, is provided with a piped supply of pure water from three sources, viz.: Bearstone Pumping Station, Crewe Corporation Mains, and Liverpool Corporation Mains. The supply is constant under adequate pressure, and only during prolonged dry periods or periods of high temperature have complaints been received as to quantity or quality.

During the year bacteriological examination of the water from all sources have been made and in all cases the results have proved highly satisfactory.

The analyses have shown no inclination to plumbo-solvency and no cases of contamination have been reported.

Only a very small number of dwelling houses are not supplied with water from the mains, and the number of dwellings supplied from a common standpipe is now reduced to a few isolated cases.

A Bill has been promoted in Parliament for the formation of a Joint Water Board covering the Borough of Crewe, the Urban Districts of Northwich, Middlewich, Nantwich, Sandbach, and Winsford, and the Rural Districts of Congleton, Northwich and Nantwich. This Board is to be known as the Mid and South-East Cheshire Water Board, with offices and headquarters at Weaverham Grange, near Hartford. After April 1st, 1947, the whole of the present water undertakings under the above Local Authorities will be transferred and become under the control of the newly-formed Board.

Suggestions for the improvement of the supplies in parts of the Rural Districts, particularly in the Marbury and Wrenbury districts have been laid before the Engineer to the Water Board, and it is understood action will be taken at an early date.

Schemes for the extension of the water mains to the Wheelock Heath and Brindley districts have also been referred to the Water Board for their consideration, and no doubt their sanction to proceed will be received during the coming year.

The work of providing additional storage capacity by increasing the size of the Woore Ash Reservoir has been commenced, but owing to difficulties in obtaining labour and materials it is estimated that it will be towards the end of 1947 before the work will be completed.

Sanction has also been received to proceed with the installation of additional Pumping Machinery and Water Softening Plant together with the erection of the necessary buildings, but to date only moderate progress has been made in connection with these items.

During the year the question of providing a piped supply of water to the Parish of Wirswall has been agreed to by the Parish Council, and steps are being taken to influence the Water Board to proceed with a suitable scheme as soon as possible.

Water mains have been laid for the supply of water to the Council's housing sites at Audlem, Acton, Shavington, Weston, and Willaston.

Additional lengths of water main will require to be laid to housing sites at Bunbury, Bulkeley and Wrenbury.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Council have seriously considered the question of providing adequate sewerage facilities for the majority of the built-up portions of the Rural District, and a comprehensive programme has been decided upon for the implementation as soon as the necessary particulars can be prepared and the sanctions obtained from the Ministry of Health.

These schemes provide for the drainage of Larch Avenue in the Parish of Basford, Wheelock Heath area of Haslington, the village portion of Weston, and the reconstruction of the Haslington Disposal Works.

The Council have included in their proposals the extension of the Wistaston Disposal Works and land has been purchased which can be adapted for that purpose.

Negotiations between the Council, the Crewe Corporation, the Nantwich Urban District Council and the Ministry of Health are still being carried on with a view to evolving the most advantageous methods of dealing with the drainage of the districts immediately adjoining these urbanised areas, and it is hoped that a definite plan may be decided upon in the year of 1947.

Considerable sums of money will be involved in these projects, and this fact may very seriously delay the granting of Government sanctions.

Lengths of new sewers to drain the Council's Housing Sites at Audlem, Acton, Shavington, and Weston have been constructed during the year.

Other lengths will be necessary to deal with the Housing sites at Bunbury, Bulkeley, Marbury, and Wrenbury, and these will be proceeded with as the sites are developed.

HOUSING

During the year 16 Swedish timber houses have been erected and occupied in the following Parishes viz:—

Alraham 4, Hankelow 4, Weston 6, and Basford 2.

Only two permanent houses of the traditional type were completed during 1946. These formed part of the Council's scheme within the Parish of Shavington.

Although only the above 18 houses were completed the houses on the following sites reached an advanced stage of con-

struction, and early in 1947 a substantial number should be ready for occupation at Shavington (14), Wilaston (26), Acton (12), Worleston (6), Weston (6), and Audlem (20).

The shortage of labour and materials has seriously delayed progress and in the addition the Council's programme has received setbacks owing to difficulties in obtaining suitable sites.

Towards the end of the year the War Ministries offered camp buildings for adaption for housing purposes at Wardle and Shavington. These premises were considered suitable and instructions have been given for rendering them fit for housing 16 families at Wardle and seven families at Shavington.

Prior to this decision being made the Council had the experience shared by many Local Authorities of disused camp buildings being occupied by "squatters." These people have now been accommodated in the converted hutments on sites at Wardle and Shavington.

RIVERS AND STREAMS POLLUTION

No action has been necessary by the Council under this heading.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

There are approximately 1,170 pail closets in the populous and closely built-up areas of the district and a conversion scheme must be put into operation as soon as circumstances permit. In some parishes conversion could be proceeded with without difficulty, but in others sewer, and reconstruction and enlargement of sewage disposal facilities will be necessary.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Council have adopted a scheme to cover the whole of the district under direct labour by motor transport to come into operation as soon as circumstances permit, and in certain parts of the district steps were taken during the year to implement this scheme by the introduction of motor transport which has made it possible to extend the scheme to more outlying parts of the Rural District, the details of which are included in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent which deals with this matter is attached hereto.

SHOPS AND OFFICES

Periodical inspections have been made and no infringements found.

CAMPING SITES

There are no camping sites in the district and when applications for licences under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for individual caravans on isolated sites are made, each case is considered by the Council on its own merits.

SWIMMING BATHS

There are no public or private swimming baths or pools in this area.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

- (1) Number of houses found to be infested:

(a) Council Houses	...	...	...	Nil
(b) Other Houses	...	...	...	4
Number of Houses disinfested	...	...	...	4
- (2) Method employed when cases do arise is the use of D.D.T. solution and powder.
- (3) Method employed to ensure belongings of tenant are free from vermin before removal to Council house: Nil.
- (4) Disinfestation is carried out by Local Authority as required by arrangement.
- (5) Advice given to occupiers of houses after disinfestation.

SCHOOLS

The sanitary conditions at the schools is generally good but there is room for considerable improvement in closet accommodation. All schools have a wholesome and adequate supply of main water. Cooked meals and milk are provided daily at all schools in the area.

The following schools were closed during the year:

Sound Council School—Whooping Cough Epidemic--
13th January to 3rd February, 1946.
Stapeley Broad Lane C.E. School—Measles Epidemic --

17th March to 31st March, 1946,

Wistaston Council School (Infants' Department only)

—Measles Epidemic—17th June to 1st July, 1946.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

There are 683 farms licensed under the Accredited Milk Scheme, and 57 producers of Tuberculin Tested milk.

Frequent inspections are made of the two pasteurisation plants in the district and samples are taken regularly and submitted for examination.

NUTRITION

No steps have been taken to increase knowledge on this subject by this Authority.

SHELL FISH

There are no shell-fish beds or layings in the district.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

There were 38 cases of Scarlet Fever against 81 last year. There were five cases of diphtheria, showing an increase of four on last year.

Fifty-one sputum specimens were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli, and eight were found to be positive.

Twenty cases of Tuberculosis were notified, of which 15 were pulmonary.

There were no cases of death from Tuberculosis which had not been previously notified.

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and Mortality during 1946

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—
15	2	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
25	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
45	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
55	2	1	—	—	1	2	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	8	7	4	1.	2	4	—	—
	15		5		6		0	
	Total Cases: 20				Total Deaths: 6			

Number of cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year

Males		Females		Total
Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
47	36	50	44	177

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

No action has been taken by this Authority.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

The following is a tabular statement of the cases of notifiable diseases which were reported during the year:

	Cases Notified	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	38	28	Nil
Diphtheria	5	5	1
Pneumonia	23	Nil	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	Nil	1
Whooping Cough	79	Nil	Nil
Measles	105	Nil	Nil
Typhoid	1	1	Nil
Erysipelas	3	Nil	Nil

Cases of Infectious Disease showing the incidence of cases in various age periods among civilians.

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Measles.	Erysipelas.	Whooping Cough.	Typhoid.	TOTALS.
Under 1	—	—	—	—	5	—	7	—	12
1 year+	1	—	—	—	4	—	13	—	18
2 years+	2	1	—	—	8	—	2	—	13
3 years+	2	1	2	—	16	—	10	—	31
4 years+	5	—	—	—	12	—	15	—	32
5 years+	17	1	3	—	47	—	29	—	97
10 years+	7	1	—	—	9	—	1	—	18
15 years+	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
20 years+	4	—	5	2	3	—	1	—	15
35 years+	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
45 years+	—	—	5	—	1	3	—	1	10
65 years+	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Totals all ages=	38	5	23	2	105	3	79	1	256

CONCLUSION

The main problem having to be faced at the present time from the Public Health Department standpoint is that of housing. It is not only the shortage of houses, but the rapid deterioration of many of those that exist through lack of repair, which is seriously aggravating the present position.

Whilst urgent and essential repairs can be authorised by building licences, shortage of materials and labour coupled with excessive cost are precluding even the minimum requirements of normal maintenance and repair.

The work of the Public Health Department has been greatly increased, and is still on the increase, due to the extension of the scavenging service. The maintenance of a regular and efficient collection service with its ever increasing numbers of employees together with the arrangement for disposal of household refuse and nightsoil, is an added responsibility. The problems of extending the scheme during these difficult days are being overcome and can be considered some consolation for the slow progress in other sections of Public Health work.

OLIVER H. BLACKLAY, M.D., F.R.C.S., (Edin.)

7th July, 1947.

Medical Officer of Health

Sanitary Inspector's Report.

To the Chairman and Members of the Nantwich Rural District Council,

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my twelfth Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1946.

INSPECTIONS

Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	1,763
Milk and Dairies Order, 1926	...	...	143
Factories Act, 1937	...	...	13
Housing Act, 1936	2,294
Food and Drugs Act, 1938	59
Infectious Disease	157

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

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The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified and appropriate action taken:

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	38
Diphtheria	...	...	...	5
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	79
Measles	...	...	...	105
Pneumonia	...	...	...	23
Erysipelas	...	...	...	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	2
Typhoid	...	...	...	1

Notification was received of a case of Typhoid Fever, the patient being a resident of the Parish of Hough, who was removed to the Nantwich Joint Isolation Hospital on the same day. On investigation it was found that the patient, his wife and daughter, had stayed at Aberystwyth, and had eaten large quantities of ice cream which had been purchased from various vendors. Taking into account the date of onset, he was considered to be a direct contact case with the Aberystwyth outbreak. Immediate arrangements were made to control contacts and for complete disinfection of the premises, including bedrooms, bathroom, closet, drainage system, feeding utensils, etc., to be carried out. The diagnosis was confirmed by the Chester Royal Infirmary Laboratory, to whom blood specimens were submitted. No further case occurred.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Considerable progress has been made by the Council since the 1st of January, 1939, in the extension and improvement of the Scavenging Services which cover for the fortnightly collection of house refuse and weekly emptying of pail closets from residential premises. At that time the parishes of Willaston, Wistaston, Wybunbury, Rope, Shavington, Stapeley, Hough, Haslington, Basford, Weston and Chorlton, were scavenged by direct labour with horse-drawn vehicles, and the parishes of Audlem, Crewe Green, Stoke and Wardle by contracts.

In 1939 a contract was entered into for part of the parish of Worleston. In 1944 the Council introduced its first motor refuse collector, which is adapted for nightsoil collection, following a breakdown of the horse-drawn vehicle collection system in the parish of Haslington. In 1944 also the parish of Woolstanwood was brought into the direct labour scheme, and in 1945 following a breakdown of the contract arrangements a second motor refuse collector was purchased to cover Audlem by direct labour with extensions to the Scheme to include the parishes of Hatherton, Hankelow, Buerton, Bridgemere, Lea and Walgherton. On the 1st of April, 1946, a third motor refuse collector was put into operation to eliminate one horse-drawn vehicle on the Shavington district which includes Weston, Rope, Basford, Hough, Chorlton and Wybunbury and the existing direct labour scheme readjusted to extend the service to Hunsterson, Doddington, Checkley, Blakenhall and Barthomley.

Early in 1946 the Council adopted the comprehensive scheme to cover the whole of the district with provision for the modernisation of the services, and the Rural area was divided into eight districts Nos. 1, 2 and 3 being already under direct labour by motor transport, and No. 4, which comprises the parishes of Wistaston, Willaston and Woolstanwood being temporarily continued by direct labour with horse-drawn vehicles. The remaining four districts, comprising forty-eight rural parishes, to be scavenged as soon as possible absorbing the three parishes scavenged by contract.

At this stage it should be pointed out that prior to the introduction of the "Pooled" rating system each parish had to meet its own expenditure with respect to any services it received. On many occasions facilities for scavenging were submitted to the Parish Councils and in the majority of cases these were turned down on the grounds of expense, the parochial rating system making them prohibitive from a financial standpoint. The introduction of "Pooled" rating during the war years

made it possible for the Council to consider the comprehensive scheme for the whole of the Rural District, and as the whole area had then to pay for what scavenging was being done; irrespective as to whether the service was being received or not, all those parishes not receiving the service now desired its extension to them with the minimum delay.

In spite of many difficulties particularly with respect to labour and transport the Council has made steady progress towards its ultimate end of providing a scavenging scheme to cover all residential premises in the Rural District. Arrangements are completed for the abolition of the horse-drawn collection system in the parishes of Wistaston, Willaston, and Woolstanwood by the introduction of motor transport on the 1st day of April, 1947.

The fifth motor refuse collector is on order, and there is every hope that it will be delivered in time to introduce the scavenging scheme to District No. 7 on the 1st of October, 1947. This district includes the parishes of Acton, Alraham, Aston-juxtra-Mondrum, Bunbury, Calveley, Cholmondeston, Henhull, Hurleston, Peckforton, Poole, Stoke, Wardle, Wettenhall and Worleston.

The necessary scavenging surveys and plans are being made with respect to districts Nos. 5 and 6 which it is hoped will be brought into the scavenging scheme early in 1948.

District No. 5 is comprised of the parishes of Austerson, Baddington, Broomhall, Coole Pilate, Dodcott-cum-Wilkesley, Marbury-cum-Quoisley, Newhall, Norbury, Wirswall and Wrenbury-cum-Frith. District No. 6 is comprised of the parishes of Baddiley, Bickerton, Brindley, Bulkeley, Burland, Cholmondeley, Chorley, Egerton, Edleston, Faddiley, Haughton, Ridley, Sound, Spurstow and Woodcott.

The outstanding parishes not covered above are Minshull Vernon, Leighton, Warmingham and Church Minshull, which should also be included in the scheme during 1948.

It will be seen from the above that the Council has wasted no time in improving and extending the scavenging services having got over the difficulties arising from a financial standpoint under the old parochial rating system. It is interesting to note that many Parish Councils which under the parochial system considered such a scheme unnecessary, now, under the "Pooled" rating system realise it is important particularly from the point of view of emptying of closet pails, many of which, being away from community centres may remain unsewered for some time to come.

REFUSE ACCOMMODATION

Ash Pits have been abolished and dust bins provided in all the parishes where the scavenging scheme operates, but the position with respect to replacement of bins is still difficult.

Prior to the introduction of scavenging to any area a survey is made of both closet and refuse accommodation and steps taken for the provision of dustbins and the conversion of privy closets to pails.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919

During the year the Council continued to act as agents for the Cheshire County Council under the above Act with respect to non-agricultural premises in this area.

During the year sixteen premises under annual contracts were serviced at a value of £109 per annum, and infestations at seven other premises were cleared under agreement amounting to £9 10s.

The treatment has been carried out on the lines recommended by the Ministry of Food and highly successful results have been achieved. The annual contracts entered into referred to premises which by nature of business and location are highly susceptible to re-infestation.

The operations by this Council have been carried out on an economic basis the receipts from contracts and agreements meeting the expenditure involved by this Council. The scheme, which is operated by a part-time Rat Catcher who is full-time employee of the Council, is working smoothly and efficiently.

CANAL BOATS

Several visits have been made to the Canals but no boats were seen. No applications were received for registration of any boats.

HOUSING

Considerable progress was made during the year with the Rural Housing Survey which is being carried out in conjunction with the Scavenging survey.

Whilst the survey is not yet complete it is evident so far that much of the property, particularly in the truly rural

parishes, is suffering badly through lack of repair and normal maintenance.

Reconstruction and essential repair is very badly needed now, if the existing housing accommodation is to meet urgent requirements for many years yet, as delay in many cases is causing rapid deterioration which can only result in total unfitness for human habitation.

The Council's points scheme for house letting has revealed by the number of applications, and from investigations connected therewith that a very serious shortage of houses exists throughout the whole of this rural district.

MILK SUPPLY

There were 1,418 registered producers of milk in the area at the end of the year. Of these, 57 are "Tuberculin Tested," and 683 "Accredited."

Licences were granted under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders as follows:—

"Pasteurised" (H.T.S.T.) Process	...	2
"Tuberculin Tested" (Pasteurised)	...	1
"Tuberculin Tested" (Bottler's Licence)		3
"Accredited" (Bottler's Licence)	...	1
"Pasteurised" (Supplementary)	...	1

The Ministry of Food arrangement with the County Council for samples of milk to be taken from premises holding licences for Heat Treatment issued by the Ministry of Food continued. Two Dairies were involved with respect to which this Council had issued licences for the production of Pasteurised Milk.

It was agreed that the County Council should be responsible for taking samples concerned to avoid duplication, and that copies of the results with respect to each premises should be forwarded to this Council.

Results were received from the County Council with respect to 73 samples all except one complied with the prescribed conditions.

In addition the following samples were taken by this Council in connection with these licences with the following results:—

7 "Pasteurised"	...	...	7 complied
7 "Tuberculin Tested"	...	...	6 complied 1 failed
7 "Tuberculin Tested"	...	...	7 complied

In the control of designated milk, officials of the Council have worked in close co-operation with the Officers of the National Milk Testing Advisory Scheme and those of the Public Health Department of the Cheshire County Council, with excellent results.

There were 166 dairymen retailing milk in the area, and out of 46 samples taken and submitted to the sediment test, 42 were found to be clean, and 4 slightly contaminated.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

There have been no slaughterhouses operating in this area during the year. Licences were issued with respect to 24 slaughterhouses.

Inspections of food were made at warehouses and shops, and approximately 620lbs of food were condemned, of which 510lbs. were tinned goods, cereals, etc., and 160lbs. imported, frozen, preserved, and canned meats.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Inspections of sanitary accommodation were made and also for review of Certificates of Escape in case of fire under Section 34.

NOTICES AND LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Public Health Act, 1936.

Preliminary Notices—82 served, 67 complied with.
Statutory Notices—39 served, 27 complied with.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Statutory Notices—9 served, 6 complied with.

Factories Act, 1937.

Statutory Notices—2 served, 2 complied with.

There were no legal proceedings taken under the above Acts during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN S. TOWNLEY,

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing
Superintendent.

7th July, 1947.
